



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/475,653	12/30/1999	RONALD M. SMITH	42390.P6384	6654

7590

09/25/2003

JAMES M WU
BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN
12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
SEVENTH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CA 90025

EXAMINER

ALAUBAIDI, HAYTHIM J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2171

DATE MAILED: 09/25/2003

15

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/475,653

Applicant(s)

SMITH ET AL.

Examiner

Haythim J. Alaubaidi

Art Unit

2171

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 July 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-8,11-16,18-21 and 23-26 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-8,11-16,18-21 and 23-26 is/are rejected.

- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 December 1999 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to the Amendment filed on July 03, 2003.
2. Claims 1-2, 4-8, 11-16, 18-21 and 23-26 are presented for examination following the amendment.
3. The Examiner acknowledges the cancellation of Claims 3, 9-10, 17 and 22.
4. Claims 1-2, 4-8, 11-16, 18-21 and 23-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).
5. Applicant's arguments with respect to the independent claims 1, 8, 15 and 20 have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-2, 4-8, 11-16, 18-21 and 23-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Scott Corey Miller (U.S. Patent No. 6,421,707 and Miller hereinafter).
8. Regarding Claims 1, 7, 13-14, and 26, Miller teaches:
creating a user profile (Figure 1, Element 135)
obtaining new information (Col 4, Lines 21-23)

identifying a user profile from the user profile database in response to the new information (Col 2, Lines 65-67 through Col 3, Lines 1-5)

Miller reference discloses all of the claimed subject matter set forth above, except it does not explicitly indicate the step of selecting one of at least two delivery vehicles. However Miller teaches delivery format and how one of them is more appropriate than the other and how the user may select one based on a preference (Abstract, i.e. *The subscriber is then notified by the network of the message (delivery mechanism) and then delivers the message and any multimedia attachments to the message to the subscriber, according to a delivery indication sent by the subscriber (according to the user profile) to the network*; Col 3, Lines 33-38; see also Col 5, Lines 8-12, i.e. *providing a number of data services*; see also Col 4, Lines 49-51; see also Col 2, Lines 58-64, i.e. *Delivery system 160 includes interfaces to a variety of delivery systems*; see also Col 3, Lines 16-19, i.e. *Converter bank subsystem 180 converts an input into an appropriate delivery format prior to its delivery to the subscriber. The delivery format is advantageously specified by the subscriber*).

Given the intended broad application of the Miller system, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to apply a plurality of delivery vehicles instead of limiting the invention to just one, one reason would be to increase the flexibility of the system by reaching a larger user community when more than one vehicle can be used.

(Col 5, Lines 1-4, i.e. *(or defaulted to, as appropriate)*)

delivering a notice in response to the user profile (Col 5, Lines 4-5, i.e. *when the notification of Radhika's e-mail arrives at Thomas' handset 411*).

Regarding Claims 2, 11, 16 and 21, Miller teaches receiving the user profile (Figure 4c; see also Col 4, Lines 41-51; see also Figure 11).

Regarding Claims 4, 18 and 23, Miller teaches SMS (Figure 1, Element 160; see also Figure 4c, Element 410).

Regarding Claims 5, 19 and 24, Miller teaches SMTP (Figure 1, Element 160: see also Figure 4c, Element 410).

Regarding Claims 6, 12 and 25, Miller teaches secure manner (Figure 4a – 4b; *i.e. the security option on the top tool bar*).

Regarding Claims 8, 15 and 20, the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejected claim 1, above. In addition Miller teaches memory and processor (Col 3, Lines 53-65).

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.

10. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

Art Unit: 2171

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Points of Contact

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Haythim J. Alaubaidi whose telephone number is (703) 305-1950. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic, can be reached on (703) 308-1436.


Any response to this office action should be mailed to:

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 or telefax at our fax number (703) 872-9306.

Hand-delivered response should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, 6th Floor Receptionist, Arlington, Virginia. 22202.

Haythim J. Alaubaidi

Haythim J. Alaubaidi
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100
September 22, 2003


SAFET METJAHIC
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100